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REMARKS

Claims 1-21 are pending in the application. Claims 1-6, 11-12 and 14-21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 (b). Claim 21 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101. Claims 7-10 and 13 were rejected objected to.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's indication that claims 7-10 and 13 contain allowable subject matter and would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 101

Claim 21 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 because the Office Action states that the claims are directed to non-statutory subject matter.

Applicants have responded by amending claim 21.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 102 (b)

Claims 1-6, 11-12 and 14-21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 (b) as being anticipated by U. S. Patent Number 6,496,477 B1 issued to Perkins et al. on December 17, 2002.

Applicants have avoided this ground of rejection for the following reasons.

Claim 13, which the Examiner has indicated is allowable if rewritten in independent form and which was previously dependent from claim 1, has been canceled. Applicants have amended claim 1 to include therein the limitation from claim 13. Claim 1, as amended, now recites,

"wherein the router contemporaneously receives a plurality of identical IP packets that comprise the IP packet, and wherein the router generates a plurality of copies of the plurality of identical IP packets and propagates the plurality of copies of the plurality of identical IP packets to an IP network component external to the router."

The Examiner admits that Perkins does not teach "wherein the router contemporaneously receives a plurality of identical IP packets that comprise the IP packet, and wherein the router generates a plurality of copies of the plurality of identical IP packets and propagates the plurality of copies of the plurality of identical IP packets to an IP network component external to the router", as recited in applicant's claim 1.

In view of the foregoing, applicants submit that Perkins does not describe each and every element of claim 1, and therefore claim 1 is not anticipated by Perkins. Since claims 2-6, 11-12 and 14-15 depend from allowable claim 1, these claims are also allowable over Perkins.

Independent claims 16 and 21 each have a limitation similar to that of independent claim 1, which was shown is not taught by Perkins. For example, claim 16 recites, "receiving contemporaneously a plurality of identical IP packets that comprise the IP packet; generating a plurality of copies of the plurality of identical IP packets; and propagating the plurality of copies of the plurality of identical IP packets to an IP network", and claim 21 recites "means in the one or more media for receiving contemporaneously a plurality of identical IP packets that comprise the IP packet; means in the one or more media for generating a plurality of copies of the plurality of identical IP packets; and means in the one or more media for propagating the plurality of copies of the plurality of identical IP packets to an IP network". Perkins does not teach these limitations for the above-mentioned reasons. Therefore, claims 16 and 21 are likewise allowable over Perkins. Since claims 17-20 depend from claim 16, these dependent claims are also allowable over Perkins.

#### Claim Amendments

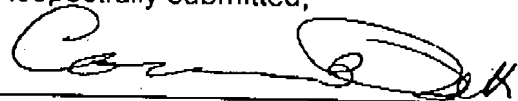
Claims 2-3, 5, 7-11, 14-15, 17 and 19 were amended to add the term "and". No new matter was added.

Conclusion

It is respectfully submitted that the Office Action's rejections have been overcome and that this application is now in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance are, therefore, respectfully solicited.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, allowance of all claims pending is respectfully requested. If a telephone conference would be of assistance in advancing the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to call applicants' attorney.

Respectfully submitted,



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